

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 00882 231155Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00  
SAJ-01 NSC-05 /065 W  
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P R 231102Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3280  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
SECDEF WASHDC  
USDOCO SOUTH NAPLES ITALY  
CINCLANT NORFOLK  
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 0882

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: NILI, MASS, MPOL, PO, NATO, NO  
SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE FORCE MODERNIZATION, NORWEGIAN ATTITUDE  
IS POSITIVE BUT MEASURED

REFS: (A) STATE 034978 (B) USNATO 771 (C) USNATO 5470 (D)  
OSLO 5539 (E) LISBON 1347

1. DURING LUNCHEON MEETING FEB 18 DCM AND I HAD WITH FOREIGN  
MINISTER FRYDENLUND AND MFA UNDER SECRETARY STOLTENBERG WE  
BROUGHT UP SUBJECT OF PORTUGUESE FORCE MODERNIZATION URGING,  
AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL A, THAT NORWEGIANS BE PREPARED PRESENT  
CONCRETE MILITARY ASSISTANCE OFFERS TO PORTUGAL AT MARCH AD  
HOC GROUP MEETING.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT NORWEGIANS HAVE BEEN  
INTERESTED AND ACTIVE IN ASSISTING PORTUGAL ON CIVILIAN SIDE,  
NOTING THAT GON AND LABOR PARTY HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY ACTIVE  
IN THIS WORK. HE SAID THIS ASSISTANCE WAS POPULAR IN NORWAY  
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AND HE POINTED OUT THAT FINANCE MINISTER KLEPPE ALSO WAS SUPP-  
ORTIVE OF THESE EFFORTS AS AMB. EDWARDSSEN INFORMED AMB.  
CARLUCCI IN LISBON (REFTEL E).

3. FRYDENLUND EXPRESSED GENERALLY FAVORABLE ATTITUDE TO OUR  
REQUEST TO HELP PORTUGUESE FORCE MODERNIZATION. BUT, HE NOTED  
THAT MILITARY AID WOULD BE LESS POPULAR THAN NON-MILITARY

HELP IN NORWAY, AND WITH ELECTIONS COMING IN FALL, NORWEGIANS WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE IN POSITION TO MAKE ANY LARGE CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PORTUGUESE MILITARY SECTOR. HE FELT THAT LOW PROFILE SUPPORT (E.G. PROVIDING EXPERT TECHNICAL CONSULTATIVE ASSISTANCE AND MILITARY TRAINING SUPPORT) COULD BE MANAGEABLE BUT THAT NOTICEABLE-SIZE AID FOR OTHER THAN STRAIGHT MILITARY PURPOSES WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO WIN POLITICAL ACCEPTABILITY HERE THAN WOULD PURELY MILITARY SUPPORT. CONVERSELY, HE INDICATED THAT ASSISTANCE WHICH COULD AT SAME TIME HELP NORWAY'S TROUBLED SHIP BUILDING INDUSTRY MIGHT GAIN FAVORABLE NOD IN NORWAY. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION MOD UNDER SECRETARY HOLST INFORMED US HE WAS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO GON HELPING MODERNIZE PORTUGUESE FORCES.

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT TO TRANSLATE NORWEGIAN FAVORABLE PREDISPOSITION TO HELPING PORTUGUESE INTO AID FOR FORCE MODERNIZATION DURING ELECTION YEAR MAY TAKE SOME ENCOURAGEMENT AND INVENTIVENESS. WE FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT WE SHOULD MAKE STRONG PITCH TO GET GON TO PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN SUCH HELP. WE WOULD LIKE TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF U.S. AND NATO EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD AND TO BE CALLED UPON WHENEVER WE MAY ASSIST IN HELPING TO BRING ABOUT GON SUPPORT.

ANDERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NATIONAL SECURITY, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, MILITARY PLANS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Subject:** PORTUGUESE FORCE MODERNIZATION, NORWEGIAN ATTITUDE IS POSITIVE BUT MEASURED  
**TAGS:** MILI, MASS, MPOL, PO, NO, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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